

We claim:

1. An improvement station for improving the uniformity of a liquid coating on a substrate comprising:
 - 5 a. three or more pick-and-place devices, or
 - b. two or more rotating periodic pick-and-place devices having the same direction of rotationthat can periodically contact and re-contact the coating at different positions on the substrate, wherein the periods of at least three of the devices are not periodically related.
- 10 2. An improvement station according to claim 1 wherein the periods are selected so that the uniformity of the coating is improved.
3. An improvement station according to claim 1 comprising a train of three or more rolls that contact the liquid coating, wherein the rotational periods of three or more of the rolls are not periodically related to one another.
- 15 4. An improvement station according to claim 3 comprising five or more rolls.
5. An apparatus comprising a coating station for applying an uneven coating to a substrate and an improvement station comprising two or more pick-and-place devices that can periodically contact and re-contact the coating at different positions on the substrate, wherein the periods of the devices are selected so that the uniformity of the coating is improved.
- 20 6. An apparatus according to claim 5 wherein the coating station initially applies a discontinuous coating.
7. An apparatus according to claim 6 wherein the coating station applies the coating in the form of one or more stripes.
8. An apparatus comprising a coating station for applying a coating to a first substrate, an
25 improvement station comprising two or more pick-and-place devices for contacting and re-contacting the coating at different positions on the first substrate whereby the coating becomes

more uniform on such first substrate, and a transfer station for transferring the coating from the first substrate to a second substrate.

9. An apparatus according to claim 8 comprising a coating station that coats at least one lane on said first substrate and a transfer station that transfers such lane to said second substrate.
10. An apparatus according to claim 8 further comprising a drying station that dries the coating, wherein the pick-and-place devices comprise rolls that increase the rate of drying.
11. An apparatus according to claim 5 further comprising a drying station that dries the coating, wherein the pick-and-place devices comprise rolls that increase the rate of drying.
12. An improvement station according to claim 1 further comprising a drying station that dries the coating, wherein the devices comprise rolls that increase the rate of drying.
13. An apparatus that comprises a plurality of pick-and-place devices that contact and re-contact a substrate having an uneven wet coating, whereby the pick-and place devices increase the drying rate of the coating.
14. An apparatus according to claim 13 wherein the uneven wet coating is discontinuous.
15. An apparatus according to claim 13 wherein the substrate comprises a moving web.
16. An apparatus according to claim 13 wherein the substrate comprises an electronic film, component or precursor thereof.
17. An apparatus according to claim 13 wherein the coating wets one or more of the pick-and-place devices with a contact angle less than about 45°.
18. An apparatus according to claim 13 comprising five or more pick-and-place devices.